

It is amazing to me that the US Government, through it's Federal Communications Commission (FCC) continues to expect licencees to invest, operate and upgrade, at their own expense, to the latest technical standard dictated; yet also continues to leave those entities in an unprotected continuance of operation enviornment. Class A status was an interim alternative for those who chose to qualify and apply, yet the majority of LPTV and Translators are still unprotected from the pressures of the Congress to raise funds from spectrum auctions. The prospect of losing our operating spectrum has always been the bane of our business. Who would believe, that in spite of serving our local communities and the public interest, we appear to be a "temporary" service? Our very existance is at stake in the broadcasting business and the financial community.

LPTV and Television translator stations who convert to Digital Television (DTV) operation must be protected by primary status grants concurrent with their conversion to DTV. Local television must survive this transition, or suburban and rural America will be relegated to secondary citizen viewer status.